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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/487,049	01/19/2000	Mohammad Reza Shafiee	Bell Atlantic-17	2681

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VERIZON CORPORATE SERVICES GROUP INC.
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EXAMINER

HAYES, JOHN W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3621

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

25

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/487,049

Applicant(s)

SHAFIEE ET AL.

Examiner

John W Hayes

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 April 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 20-30 and 33-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 20-30 and 33-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 January 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11-13, 20, 33-34 and 36-37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. With respect to claims 1-2, 5-6, 8-10, 14, 21, 22, 24-25, 28 and 35, applicant's arguments filed 10 April 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant contends that neither the Goss nor Kannan reference teach or suggest sending an encrypted synchronized browsing command to a follower terminal. Examiner respectfully disagrees with this assertion. Goss, as shown below, teaches sending a synchronized browsing command to a follower terminal, however, does not disclose that the transmission of this command is encrypted. Examiner submits that encrypting data that is transmitted between two terminals or parties by using various encryption techniques is notoriously well known in the art for obvious reasons of security. Kannan discloses, as shown below, a method for providing secure communications between a browsing customer and a customer service representative in real-time over the web by incorporating a Secure Socket Layer or other Web security technique (Page 3, 0032; Page 5, 0063; Page 11, 0129) such as a Secure Hypertext Transport Protocol (Page 4, 0061), which were well known security protocols at the time of applicant's invention, designed to support various encryption and authentication measures such as public key encryption to keep all transactions secure from end to end. Thus, examiner maintains that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to encrypt the browsing commands or any other information transmitted between browsing terminals to provide a layer of security to the communications between the customer and the customer service representative as taught by Kannan. Kannan provides motivation by indicating that communication between a customer and a seller must also be secure and private so that the parties can ask questions and exchange personal data such as credit card information to complete the transaction (Page 1, 0010).
3. With respect to claims 3, 4, 23, 26-27, 29, 30 and 38-39, applicant's arguments filed 10 April 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant contends that one would not have

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been motivated to combine Camaisa with Goss and Kannan since Camiasa does not restrict access in a system where a guide terminal leads a synchronized browsing session as in the Goss patent. In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Camaisa discloses a user terminal with a closed browser to limit or restrict access to certain content or web sites on a list using certain rules. Examiner asserts that the claims are recited in such a manner that it is determined if a particular terminal is permitted to access certain content, then it is allowed and if access is not permitted, then it is not allowed. Examiner also submits that Camaisa teaches this functionality without regard to the type of system being employed.

Election/Restrictions

4. This application contains claims 15-19, 31 and 32 drawn to an invention nonelected without traverse in Paper No. 7. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

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invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-2, 5-10, 28, 40 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goss et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,493,447 B1 in view of Kannan, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0054064 A1.

As per Claims 1, 5-10, 28, 40 and 42, Goss et al disclose a method for effecting a synchronized browsing session between a guide terminal and a follower terminal (Abstract), the method comprising the steps of:

- providing address information corresponding to the follower terminal to the guide terminal, and from the follower terminal to the guide terminal as part of TCP/IP communications (Col. 2, lines 5-15; Col. 6, lines 50-55; Col. 7, lines 30-50);
- generating a browsing command at the guide terminal and sending the browsing command to the follower terminal (Col. 8, lines 50-63);
- receiving, with the follower terminal, the browsing command and effecting the browsing command (Col. 8, lines 50-63).

Goss et al further discloses the use of a secure web site (Col. 6, lines 30-33; Col. 12, lines 27-46), however, fails to explicitly disclose encrypting the browsing command by the guide terminal and decrypting the browsing command by the follower terminal prior to effecting the browsing command. Kannan discloses a method for providing customer service over the World Wide Web (WWW) and teaches that the customer service is provided by a secure, private, human-to-human communication between a browsing customer and a customer service representative in real-time over the web (Page 2, paragraph 0018). Kannan further teaches that secure communication can be attained because the invention incorporates a Secure Socket Layer for other Web security technique (Page 3, 0032; Page 5, 0063; Page 11, 0129) such as a Secure Hypertext Transport Protocol (Page 4, 0061), which were well known security protocols at the time of applicant's invention, designed to support various encryption and authentication measures such as public key encryption to keep all transactions secure from end to end.

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Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Goss et al and include the encrypting the browsing commands to provide a layer of security to the communications between the customer and the customer service representative as taught by Kannan. Kannan provides motivation by indicating that communication between a customer and a seller must also be secure and private so that the parties can ask questions and exchange personal data such as credit card information to complete the transaction (Page 1, 0010).

Goss et al further fail to specifically disclose wherein the follower terminal is configured such that at least one of downloading applets is disabled and execution of applets is disabled. Examiner, however, takes Official Notice that disabling applets is old and well known in the art and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to disable applets for obvious security reasons. Furthermore, applicant has admitted in the specification (page 4) that disabling applets is known.

As per **Claim 2**, Goss et al further disclose that the browsing command is a request for content associated with a URL (Col. 6, lines 2-9 and 55-65)

As per **Claim 8**, Goss et al further disclose wherein the address information corresponding to the follower terminal are provided to the guide terminal via a session manager (Figure 8, Figure 8, Col. 21, lines 8-28).

8. Claims 3-4, 29-30 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goss et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,493,447 B1 and Kannan, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0054064 A1 as applied to claims 2 and 28 above, and further in view of Camaisa et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,784,564.

As per **Claims 3-4, 29-30 and 39**, the combination of Goss et al and Kannan fail to specifically disclose determining, at the follower terminal, whether or not access is permitted to the content, and if it is, then requesting the content, and if it is not permitted, then not requesting the content. Camaisa et al disclose a user terminal with a closed browser to limit or restrict access to certain content or web sites on

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a list and teach that if access is allowed, then requesting the content and not requesting the content when access is not permitted (Col. 2, lines 26-32 and 41-48; Col. 3, lines 19-30; Col. 4, lines 31-39; Col. 5 line 59-Col. 6 line 18). Camaisa et al teach that if access is determined to be allowed based upon a first set of rules which specify whether the content or web site is on a GO list, then the content is requested (Col. 2, lines 42-48; Col. 4, lines 15-18; Col. 5 line 59-Col. 6 line 18). Camaisa et al further disclose that if access is determined to be not allowed based upon a second set of rules which specify whether the content or web site is on a NO GO list, then the content is not requested (Col. 2, lines 26-32 and 41-48; Col. 3, lines 19-30; Col. 4, lines 31-39; Col. 5 line 59-Col. 6 line 18). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Goss et al and Kannan and include the ability to restrict access to certain content or web sites as taught by Camaisa et al. Camaisa et al provides motivation by indicating that service providers would sometimes prefer that users be able to access the Web pages of the service providers, without affording access to other sites at their expense (Col. 1, lines 55-65), or limit access for security reasons (Col. 2, lines 1-8).

9. Claims 11-13, 20, 33-34 and 36-37, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choung et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,181,689 B1.

As per Claims 11, 20, 33-34 and 36-37, Choung et al disclose a method for effecting a synchronized browsing session between a guide terminal and a follower terminal (Abstract), the method comprising the steps of:

- providing address information corresponding to the follower terminal to the guide terminal, and from the follower terminal to the guide terminal (Col. 7, lines 1-13; Col. 9, lines 45-55);
- generating a browsing command at the guide terminal and sending the browsing command to the follower terminal for acceptance and in response to a request from the guide terminal (Col. 7, lines 27-35);

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- receiving, with the follower terminal, the browsing command and effecting the browsing command, wherein the browser at the follower terminal is resident on the follower terminal before any connection between the follower terminal and the guide terminal (Col. 7, lines 48-58);

- establishing, in response to an input at the second terminal, a call between the customer at the follower terminal and the live agent at the guide terminal and wherein the call includes audio (telephone) and video (Web browser) communications (Col. 6, lines 1-11; Col. 7, lines 14-23).

Choung et al disclose a synchronized browsing session between a guide terminal and a follower terminal without utilizing applets, however, does not explicitly disclose disabling one of downloading or executing applets. Examiner takes Official Notice, however, that disabling applets is old and well known in the art and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to disable applets for obvious security reasons. Furthermore, applicant has admitted in the specification (page 4) that disabling applets is known.

Furthermore, the preamble generally does not limit the claims when it merely defines the context in which the invention operates. A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951). See also *Allen Engineering Corp. v. Bartell Industries, Inc., v. Darragh Co.*, 63 USPQ2d 1769, 1774 (Fed. Cir. 2002) and *DeGeorge V. Bernier*, 226 USPQ 758, 761 n.3 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

As per **Claim 12**, Choung et al further disclose wherein the follower browser is maintained by a session manager (Figure 2).

As per **Claim 13**, Goss et al disclose a system for establishing and effecting a synchronized browsing session comprising:

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- a guide terminal including a connection process for invoking the establishment of the synchronized browsing session and a process for generating synchronized browsing commands (Figure 2 and Col. 6 line 64-Col. 7 line 13; Col. 7, lines 28-35);
- a follower terminal including a connection process for facilitating the establishment of the synchronized browsing session and a process for receiving and effecting synchronized browsing commands (Figure 2 and Col. 7, lines 40-58);
- a session manager working with the connection process of the follower terminal to establish and maintain the synchronized browsing session (Figure 2, Col. 7, lines 48-58); and
- at least one network for communicating data between the guide terminal, the follower terminal and the session manager (Figure 1).

Choung et al disclose a synchronized browsing session between a guide terminal and a follower terminal without utilizing applets, however, does not explicitly disclose that the follower terminal is configured for disabling one of downloading or executing applets. Examiner takes Official Notice, however, that disabling applets is old and well known in the art and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to disable applets for obvious security reasons. Furthermore, applicant has admitted in the specification (page 4) that disabling applets is known.

10. Claims 14, 21-22 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choung et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,181,689 B1 in view of Kannan, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0054064.

As per **Claims 14, 21-22 and 35**, Choung et al fail to explicitly disclose encrypting the browsing command by the guide terminal and decrypting the browsing command by the follower terminal prior to effecting the browsing command. Kannan discloses a method for providing customer service over the World Wide Web (WWW) and teaches that the customer service is provided by a secure, private, human-to-human communication between a browsing customer and a customer service representative in real-time over the web (Page 2, paragraph 0018). Kannan further teaches that secure communication can be

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attained because the invention incorporates a Secure Socket Layer for other Web security technique (Page 3, 0032; Page 5, 0063; Page 11, 0129) such as a Secure Hypertext Transport Protocol (Page 4, 0061), which were well known security protocols at the time of applicant's invention, designed to support various encryption and authentication measures such as public key encryption to keep all transactions secure from end to end. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Choung et al and include the encrypting the browsing commands to provide a layer of security to the communications between the customer and the customer service representative as taught by Kannan. Kannan provides motivation by indicating that communication between a customer and a seller must also be secure and private so that the parties can ask questions and exchange personal data such as credit card information to complete the transaction (Page 1, 0010).

11. Claims 23, 26-27, 38 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goss et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,493,447 B1 in view of Camaisa et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,784,564

As per **Claims 23, 26-27, 38 and 41**, Goss et al disclose, in a follower terminal, a method for effecting a synchronized browsing session with a guide terminal comprising the steps of accepting and acknowledging a browsing command from the guide terminal (Col. 8, lines 50-63). Goss et al, however, fail to explicitly disclose whether access is permitted to the content, and if it is, then requesting the content. Camaisa et al disclose a user terminal with a closed browser to limit or restrict access to certain content or web sites on a list. Camaisa et al teach that if access is determined to be allowed based upon a first set of rules which specify whether the content or web site is on a GO list, then the content is requested (Col. 2, lines 42-48; Col. 4, lines 15-18; Col. 5 line 59-Col. 6 line 18). Camaisa et al further disclose that if access is determined to be not allowed based upon a second set of rules which specify whether the content or web site is on a NO GO list, then the content is not requested (Col. 2, lines 26-32 and 41-48; Col. 3, lines 19-30; Col. 4, lines 31-39; Col. 5 line 59-Col. 6 line 18). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Goss

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et al and Kannan and include the ability to restrict access to certain content or web sites as taught by Camaisa et al. Camaisa et al provides motivation by indicating that service providers would sometimes prefer that users be able to access the Web pages of the service providers, without affording access to other sites at their expense (Col. 1, lines 55-65), or limit access for security reasons (Col. 2, lines 1-8).

Goss et al fails to explicitly disclose that the follower terminal is configured for disabling one of downloading or executing applets. Examiner takes Official Notice, however, that disabling applets is old and well known in the art and it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to disable applets for obvious security reasons. Furthermore, applicant has admitted in the specification (page 4) that disabling applets is known.

12. Claims 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goss et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,493,447 B1 and Camaisa et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,784,564 as applied to claim 23 above, and further in view of Kannan, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0054064 A1.

As per **Claims 24-25**, Goss et al and Camaisa et al fail to explicitly disclose the encrypting the browsing command and the acknowledge reply between the guide terminal and the follower terminal. Kannan discloses a method for providing customer service over the World Wide Web (WWW) and teaches that the customer service is provided by a secure, private, human-to-human communication between a browsing customer and a customer service representative in real-time over the web (Page 2, paragraph 0018). Kannan further teaches that secure communication can be attained because the invention incorporates a Secure Socket Layer for other Web security technique (Page 3, 0032; Page 5, 0063; Page 11, 0129) such as a Secure Hypertext Transport Protocol (Page 4, 0061), which were well known security protocols at the time of applicant's invention, designed to support various encryption and authentication measures such as public key encryption to keep all transactions secure from end to end. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Goss et al and include the encrypting the browsing commands to provide a layer of security to the communications between the customer and the customer service representative as taught

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by Kannan. Kannan provides motivation by indicating that communication between a customer and a seller must also be secure and private so that the parties can ask questions and exchange personal data such as credit card information to complete the transaction (Page 1, 0010).

Conclusion

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

14. Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Mirashrafi et al discloses a method for synchronizing information browsing among multiple systems

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- Fraenkel et al disclose a method for enabling view synchronization over the WWW using frame hierarchies, however, discloses using embedded scripts
- Roberts et al disclose a call center system where users and reps conduct simultaneous voice and joint browsing sessions, however, disclose the use of applets.

16. The prior art previously made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Bateman et al disclose a WWW system for coordinating communications via a customer contact channel using a call center for setting up a call between the customer and an available help agent.
- Stovall discloses a method wherein a user is connected interactively to a response server and further wherein a customer service representative places an Internet based phone call to the user.
- Miloslavsky discloses a method wherein a customer browsing the Internet indicates a desire to speak to an agent at a call center and wherein the agent either places a call to the customer or receives a call from the customer.
- Willens discloses a network access control system and teaches a filter established on a users computer and software that checks the filter to determine if access to certain information is allowed.
- Woods et al disclose a site access control layer and teach wherein rules are established to determine if a user is allowed access to certain destination sites or content.
- Dunn et al disclose a communication system including a client controlled gateway for concurrent voice/data messaging with a data server to allow a client and a service representative to speak while the client is browsing the Internet.
- Schloss discloses a system for controlling access to data located on a content server
- Bernstein et al disclose a browser kiosk system wherein access to certain URLs is limited or restricted by the owner of the kiosk.

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17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Hayes whose telephone number is (703)306-5447. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 5:30 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jim Trammell, can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

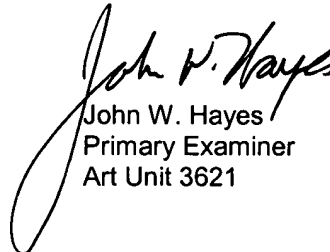
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or faxed to:

(703)305-7687 [Official communications; including
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(703) 746-5531 [Informal/Draft communications, labeled
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Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington,
VA, 7th floor receptionist.


John W. Hayes
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3621

June 18, 2003